

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00

/045 W

-----084177 031006Z /21

O 030950Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 247

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2686

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, US, KS

SUBJECT: BLUE HOUSE BUGGING: REPORTED STATEMENTS BY FORMER AMBASSADOR
PORTER

1. MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR PAK SANG-YONG RAISED WITH POL COUNS LATE AFTERNOON APRIL 3, AP DESPATCH APPEARING IN AFTERNOON EDITION APRIL 3 OF SEOUL SHINMUN (NO OTHER AFTERNOON APPER CARRIED THIS STORY ACCORDING TO PAK). STORY STATES THAT AMBASSADOR PORTER ON PROGRAM TO BE AIRED MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 3, IN THE U.S. WILL STATE THAT, PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVAL IN SEOUL IN 1967, BUGGING OF BLUE HOUSE HAD TAKEN PLACE. HE REPORTEDLY GOES ON TO STATE THAT HE TOOK STEPS UPON ARRIVAL TO SEE THIS DISCONTINUED AND DOUBTS THAT, IN ANY EVENT, BUGGING HAD BEEN VERY EFFECTIVE.

2. PAK SAID THAT IN DECEMBER 1976 UNDERSECRETARY HABIB HAD OFFICIALLY DENIED ANY U.S. BUGGING OF THE BLUE HOUSE AND REQUESTED POL COUNS VIEWS ON PORTER STATEMENT. POL COUNS RESPONDED THAT U.S. POSITION REGARDING BUGGING REMAINED UNCHANGED FROM THAT PROVIDED BY UNDERSECRETARY. HE UNDERTOOK, HOWEVER, TO QUERY WASHINGTON REGARDING REPORTED STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR PORTER.

3. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING POL COUNS RETURN FROM MEETING WITH PAK, FORMIN CALLED CHARGE TO EXPRESS HIS SERIOUS CONCERN OVER THE AP
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REPORT AND TO REQUEST THAT THE CHARGE COME TO HIS OFFICE FOR A MEETING ON THE SUBJECT AT 1030 TOMORROW, APRIL 4. THE FORMIN EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT AT THE APRIL 3 NOON BRIEFING THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN COULD REAFFIRM THE EARLIER U.S. DENIAL OF ANY BLUEHOUSE BUGGING OR COULD, AT A MINIMUM, DISAVOW AMBASSADOR PORTER'S STATEMENTS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: FORMIN WAS VERY UPSET BY THIS NEW BUGGING CHARGE. REQUEST GUIDANCE FOR MEETING WITH FORMIN, INCLUDING TREATMENT OF MATTER AT NOON BRIEFING, AND FOR RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS THAT WILL RESULT FROM THIS AP REPORT.
STERN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, SURVEILLANCE, AMBASSADORS, LISTENING DEVICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEOUL02686
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780143-0519
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3087763
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BLUE HOUSE BUGGING: REPORTED STATEMENTS BY FORMER AMBASSADOR PORTER
TAGS: PEPR, PGOV, US, KS, (PORTER, WILLIAM J), (PAK SANG-YONG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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